



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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No. 02-126

October 28, 2002

NRC APPROVES TRANSFER OF OPERATING LICENSE FOR SEABROOK TO FPL ENERGY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved the transfer of the operating license for the Seabrook nuclear power station to FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC.

North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (NAESCO) was the previous licensed operator and co-owner of the Seabrook Station, located in Rockingham County, New Hampshire. The plant began commercial operation August 19, 1990.

On May 17, NAESCO and FPL Energy Seabrook submitted applications to the NRC requesting approval for the license transfer. Current licensees which own interest in Seabrook Station but are not involved in this license transfer are Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant, and Hudson Light and Power Department, all of which will remain licensees. The key issues considered by the NRC technical staff in its review included the adequacy of decommissioning funding, insurance and FPL's technical and financial qualifications.

The Commission published a notice of the transfer request and an opportunity for a hearing in the *Federal Register* June 14. No comments or requests for a hearing were received.

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